

Study Guide—Part I

1. Explain this statement: "... [Terrorist] groups have acted out of political motivations, not merely out of a desire for senseless acts of violence."

Although terrorists use violence, their real motivations are political - for example, ending colonial rule, intimidating populations, and weaken/destroy political opponents.

2. What two lessons did terrorists throughout the world learn from the attack on the Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics?

- a. They learned that they could capture the world's attention if their targets were chosen correctly ~ wider the audience
- b. They learned the importance of targeting symbols. ^{wider impacts}

3. What situations did the early laws against terrorism address?

- Early laws against terrorism addressed aircraft sabotage + hijacking, attacks on diplomats, hostages.

4. The reading says that state-sponsored terrorism increased after the American hostage crisis in Iran. What did many governments learn from that event?

Many governments learned that supporting terrorist groups provided an effective way for weaker states to strike at more powerful ones.

5. How has the United States tried to strike back at state-sponsored terrorism?

The United States has tried economic embargoes, sanctions, and military actions.

6. What argument have critics of U.S. military strikes against terrorism made?

Critics said that military strikes by the United States deprive it from taking the moral high ground, which sparked criticism.